

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 733

By Haile

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend David Collins upon his receipt of the 2017-2018 LifeChanger of the Year Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should recognize and applaud those outstanding teachers who, because of their dedication to fostering knowledge in the youth of our nation, are recognized for their exemplary achievements; and

WHEREAS, David Collins is one such estimable educator, who has distinguished himself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his extraordinary teaching career, Mr. Collins has been given the 2017-2018 LifeChanger of the Year Award, an honor most befitting his outstanding tenure as a teacher, as it recognizes the positive impact he has had on so many young individuals; and

WHEREAS, the LifeChanger of the Year Award is an annual program sponsored by National Life Group that recognizes K-12 educators and school employees across the country who have made a significant difference in the lives of students by exemplifying excellence, positive influence, and leadership; and

WHEREAS, a 1969 graduate of Gallatin High School, David Collins is a beloved teacher whose positive impact on his students spans across generations; and

WHEREAS, currently, Mr. Collins is a first-grade teacher at Union Elementary STEM and Demonstration School; he previously taught at Vena Stuart Elementary School for twenty-nine years; and

WHEREAS, his teaching craft is well-known and cherished for its hands-on approach, which includes working with students in the school garden and holding an annual butterfly

launch at Triple Creek Park in Gallatin, an event admired even by those who never graced the classroom of Mr. Collins; and

WHEREAS, David Collins further endears himself in the heart of his community by working with his students to donate the eggs and vegetables from the school garden to the Gallatin CARES organization and the Sumner County Food Bank; and

WHEREAS, a man of faith, Mr. Collins is a member of Hartsville Pike Church of Christ, where he regularly coordinates mission trips and church camps that are enjoyed by all in his community; and

WHEREAS, a parade was conducted in January 2018 to honor David Collins upon his nomination for the LifeChanger of the Year Award, a testament to how truly treasured and beloved he is to his community; and

WHEREAS, thanks to his community's efforts, Mr. Collins also won the LifeChanger Spirit Award, which is given to the LifeChanger nominee whose community demonstrated the most support for his or her nomination; the winner of the Spirit Award receives \$5,000 that is split evenly between the winner and the winner's school; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Collins is an inspiration to his colleagues and students, both past and present, and his friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know him; and

WHEREAS, David Collins truly epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest precepts of public service and quality education for all, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend David Collins upon his receipt of the 2017-2018 LifeChanger of the Year Award, applaud his stalwart dedication to educating the youth of Tennessee, and extend to him our best wishes for every continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.